

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0162/142387.01
Application No.: 09/645,861
Office Action Dated: January 28, 2004

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

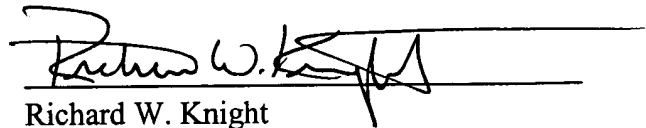
Claims 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sitka, and Claims 17-25 were rejected under § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Sitka. In response, Applicants have canceled Claims 10-25 without prejudice to Applicants' rights to pursue said claims in a divisional or continuation application. In regard to these canceled claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 15-25 have been rendered moot.

Claims 1-9 are pending and have been allowed. Applicants wish to gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-9 in the present Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present amendments and remarks are responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Final Office Action, and submit that Claims 1-9 of the application are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of application at the Examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited.

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